

Hollywood Bowl Plays Host to the Monkees

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The Monkees, who have inherited the United States frenzied popularity of the Beatles, sang and clowned their way through a 65-minute concert to a crowd of more than 17,000 persons Friday night in the Hollywood Bowl.

It was their first local appearance, inaugurating their first national concert tour after one season of their television series.

The quartet carried off the concert, sponsored by radio station KHJ, exquisitely.

They have been criticized for not playing their instruments on the first Monkees records and for leaning heavily on other

people's talent to produce their music.

But each member soloed and played several instruments during the evening, showing that they can support themselves and are willing to accept the responsibility of their popularity.

Micky Dolenz drummed and sang lead on "Last Train to Clarksville," "I'm a Believer," "Stepping Stone" and a parody of James Brown singing "I've Got a Woman," which ended when he jumped into the fountain pool at the front of the stage.

Peter Tork alternated between several electric organs, bass guitar and an electric five string banjo,

singing "Auntie Grizelda" and a tongue in cheek version of "Pick a Bale of Cotton."

Davy Jones sang "Shades of Gray," "I Wanna Be Free" and a take-off of a night club performer doing "Gonna Build a Mountain," playing tambourine, drums and organ during the concert.

Which leaves Mike Nesmith, whose instrument was a 12 string electric guitar and whose songs included "Sunny Girlfriend," "You Just May Be the One" and "You Can't Judge a Book by Its Cover."

During many numbers, a large movie screen behind the group was lit by slides and movies of the Monkees from their TV program and by a rudimentary light show.

The audience shrieked whenever a Monkee flashed on the screen and many of the spectators ignored the real group in

their fascination with the projected images. The 3-D Monkees also had trouble keeping their eyes off their 2-D counterparts.

Hysteria abounded while they were playing but it was not the aban-

doned catharsis which the Rolling Stones and Beatles have provoked in appearances. There were no disturbances.

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